

I AM not, with these suggestions, attempting in any way to cast any reflections upon any particular Hospital or Institutional body. I am merely, for these Associations' own sakes, advocating these measures, which I am sure every right-thinking, honest person will cordially welcome. Those bodies who conduct the affairs of the trusts conferred upon them in a proper and becoming manner will specially hail the proposed inquiry with delight, for such will strengthen their hands and the confidence of the public in them.

WHILST those Institutions which are carried on by means such as ought not to be used in their maintenance will be simply quietly and officially effaced, and scandals of the kind we have too often been treated to will, for the future, be avoided.

I DON'T see myself why a Central Board of Health and Charity combined should not be set up, consisting of some dozen or so of those men—and they are many—who have a thorough knowledge of the requirements of the present day in respect to Hospitals and charities generally. It is a particularly grand opportunity now for the *Lancet* and the *British Medical Journal* to make their voices heard upon the subject, and to endeavour by a *plebiscite* of the whole Medical profession to obtain its opinions upon it.

AND if I were only the responsible Editor of one or the other of those powerful, wealthy, and magnificent properties, it would be my duty and pleasure to strain every journalistic nerve to forward this idea, in spite of the sneers and in utter disregard of the apathy of the many who imagine that the world is simply an easy chair, and their special province but to sit in it, uninterrupted and contented.

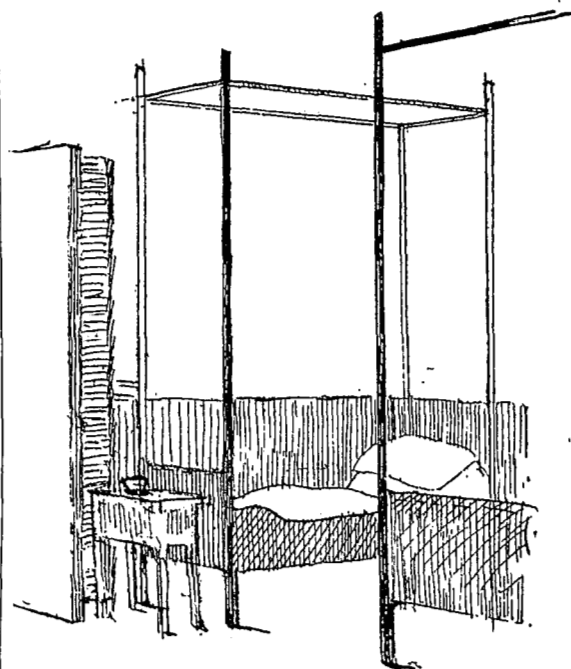
WE must be thankful for many things in the world of Institutions, and I sincerely hope that we are, for as far as they go, and as they are at present conducted, they are the proper pride of the Empire; but I do maintain, with all my admiration for them, that we do not get the value out of, for the money expended on, them.

I HAVE discoursed in this unsweet strain somewhat lengthily for the reason that my remarks in these columns of the last two weeks appear to have been somewhat misunderstood by one or two of my readers, whom I hope will allow me to express emphatically that I am neither a Roman Catholic, nor a Radical. I have too much love and too much reverence for our Church and grand old institutions to be either, but when I feel that

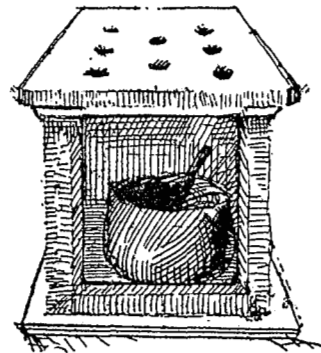
an uncharitable religious narrowness and a heart-breaking, lifeless apathy are insidiously creeping in among them, paralysing their objects and their efforts, I feel it my duty to my readers, to myself, and to the very institutions themselves, who come within the scope of my remarks, to be outspoken, even at the risk of offending a sensitive few.

THE JUNIOR HOUSE SURGEON.

### EXTERIORS AND INTERIORS.



BED IN MEN'S WARD,  
ROMAN CATHOLIC HOSPITAL, NORTH BRABANT,  
HOLLAND.



WARM FOOT-STOOL,  
ROMAN CATHOLIC HOSPITAL, NORTH BRABANT,  
HOLLAND.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)